

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An absorbent garment comprising:

a composite structure, the composite structure having end edges and side edges, the end edges and the side edges defining a perimeter and a central region within the perimeter of the composite structure;

the composite structure including a liquid-permeable body side liner, an outer cover, an absorbent assembly between the body side liner and the outer cover; and

a continuous mesh liner attached to the composite structure adjacent to the body side liner with no intervening layers between the mesh liner and the body side liner, wherein the mesh liner is permeable to sand, and the mesh liner is coextensive with the composite structure and is attached to the composite structure along the perimeter of the composite structure and unattached to the composite structure in the central region of the composite structure.

2. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 1, wherein the mesh liner comprises a nonwoven material.

3. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 2, wherein the nonwoven material comprises spunbond polypropylene.

4. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 2, wherein the nonwoven material comprises spunbond polyethylene.

5. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 2, wherein the nonwoven material comprises a spunbond/meltblown/spunbond web combination.

6. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 1, wherein the mesh liner comprises nylon.

7. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 1, wherein the mesh liner comprises at least two layers of material.

Claim 8 (Canceled)

9. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 1, wherein the mesh liner is permeable to liquid and substantially impermeable to bowel movement material.

10. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 1, wherein the mesh liner has a basis weight in a range from about 7 gsm to about 85 gsm.

11. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 1, wherein the mesh liner has a basis weight in a range from about 14 gsm to about 54 gsm.

12. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 1, wherein the mesh liner has a basis weight in a range from about 20 gsm to about 41 gsm.

13. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 1, wherein the mesh liner has a hole size in a range from about 147 to about 5810 microns.

14. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 1, wherein the mesh liner has a tensile strength of at least about 5 pounds of force per 4 inches of mesh liner.

15. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 1, wherein the mesh liner has a tensile strength of at least about 10 pounds of force per 4 inches of mesh liner.

16. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 1, wherein the mesh liner has a tensile strength of at least about 13 pounds of force per 4 inches of mesh liner.

17. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 1, wherein the mesh liner has a tensile strength of at least about 19 pounds of force per 4 inches of mesh liner.

18. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 1 further comprising at least one elastic strand attached to the mesh liner.

19. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 18, wherein the at least one elastic strand is attached under the mesh liner adjacent the body side liner.

20. (Currently Amended) An absorbent garment comprising:
a composite structure, the composite structure having end edges and side edges, the end edges and the side edges defining a perimeter and a central region within the perimeter of the composite structure;
the composite structure including a liquid-permeable body side liner, an outer cover, an absorbent assembly between the body side liner and the outer cover;
a pair of containment flaps attached to the liner side edges; and
a continuous mesh liner attached to the containment flaps, wherein a surface of the mesh liner is positioned adjacent to a surface of the body side liner with no intervening layers between the mesh liner and the body side liner other than the containment flaps, and the mesh liner is permeable to sand, and the mesh liner is coextensive with the composite structure and is attached to the composite structure along the perimeter of the composite structure and unattached to the composite structure in the central region of the composite structure.

Claim 21 (Canceled)

22. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 20, wherein the mesh liner is permeable to liquid and substantially impermeable to bowel movement material.

23. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 20, wherein the mesh liner has a basis weight in a range from about 7 gsm to about 85 gsm.

24. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 20, wherein the mesh liner has a hole size in a range from about 147 microns to about 5810 microns.

25. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 20, wherein the mesh liner has a tensile strength of at least about 5 pounds of force per 4 inches of mesh liner.

26. (Original) The absorbent garment of Claim 20, wherein the mesh liner is folded.

27. (Currently Amended) An absorbent article having a waist opening and two leg openings, comprising:

a composite structure including an absorbent assembly, a liquid-permeable layer on a first side of the absorbent assembly, and a liquid-impermeable layer on a second side of the absorbent assembly, the composite structure having end edges and side edges, the end edges and the side edges defining a perimeter and a central region within the perimeter of the composite structure; and

a continuous liquid-permeable liner adjacent to the liquid-permeable layer on the first side of the absorbent assembly with no intervening layers between the liquid-permeable liner and the liquid-permeable layer, wherein the liner is permeable to sand, and the liquid-permeable liner is coextensive with the composite structure and is attached to the composite structure along the perimeter of the composite structure and unattached to the composite structure in the central region of the composite structure.

28. (Original) The absorbent article of Claim 27, wherein the liner comprises a mesh material.

29. (Original) The absorbent article of Claim 27, wherein the liner comprises a spunbond web.

30. (Original) The absorbent article of Claim 28, wherein the liner further comprises a meltblown web.

Claim 31 (Canceled)

32. (Original) The absorbent article of Claim 31, wherein the liner is attached to the liquid-permeable layer.

33. (Original) The absorbent article of Claim 31, wherein the absorbent article is a swimpant.

34. (Currently Amended) An absorbent article having a waist opening and two leg openings, comprising:

a composite structure including an absorbent assembly, a liquid-permeable layer on a first side of the absorbent assembly, and a liquid-impermeable layer on a second side of the absorbent assembly, the composite structure having end edges and side edges, the end edges and the side edges defining a perimeter and a central region within the perimeter of the composite structure;

a pair of containment flaps attached to the composite structure; and

a continuous liquid-permeable liner attached to the containment flaps, wherein a surface of the liquid-permeable liner is positioned adjacent to a surface of the liquid-permeable layer with no intervening layers between the liquid-permeable liner and the liquid-permeable layer other than the containment flaps, and the liner is permeable to sand, and the liquid-permeable liner is coextensive with the composite structure and is attached to the composite structure along the perimeter of the composite structure and unattached to the composite structure in the central region of the composite structure.

35. (Original) The absorbent article of Claim 34, wherein the containment flaps are attached to the first side of the composite structure.

36. (Original) The absorbent article of Claim 34, wherein the liner comprises a mesh material.

37. (Original) The absorbent article of Claim 34, wherein the liner comprises a spunbond web.

38. (Original) The absorbent article of Claim 37, wherein the liner further comprises a meltblown web.

Claim 39 (Canceled)

40. (Original) The absorbent article of Claim 34, wherein the absorbent article is a swimpant.